The UGC has proposed a new scheme for establishment of faculties of medical studies in all Central Universities of North Eastern during Eleventh Plan period subject to the availability of funds.

Coverage of Schools under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

1355. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan scheme launched in 2001-02 had envisioned bridging of all general and social category gaps at the primary stage by 2007 and at the elementary level by 2010; if so, the extent of coverage achieved so far;

(b) whether as much as 20 per cent of the primary schools in India are run with a single teacher; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the teacher-pupil ratio in primary schools now estimated at 1:41?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) One of the objectives of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) is to bridge *inter alia*, social category gaps at primary stage by 2007 and at elementary education level by 2010. The DISE data 2005 shows that social gaps have improved at primary level, as follows:-

Gross Enrolment Ratios (Class I-V)

	2003-04	2004-05
Overall	98.2	108.5
SC	88.3	116.05
ST	91.37	123.89

Source: SES

(b) As per DISE-2005, 12.71% of the primary schools were with a single teacher, largely due to a time lag between opening of new schools and recruitments of new teachers.

(c) Under SSA, 10.12 lakhs teachers have been sanctioned till 2006-07, for new schools opened and to improve teacher pupil ratios.